IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A composition comprising ~~Use of~~ a salt of L-ascorbic acid and ~~with~~ a pharmaceutically acceptable organic base ~~to prepare a pharmaceutical composition, for ophthalmic topical use, capable of improving the level of L-ascorbic acid in a human eye~~.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): The composition according to Claim 1, wherein ~~Use according to Claim 1, characterized in that~~ the ~~said~~ organic base is ~~chosen~~ selected from the group ~~comprising~~ consisting of tromethamine, N-methylglucosamine, lysine, arginine and ornithine.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): The composition according to Claim 1, wherein ~~Use according to Claim 1, characterized in that~~ the ~~said~~ organic base is tromethamine or lysine.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): The composition according to Claim 1, wherein ~~Use according to any one of Claims 1 to 3, characterized in that~~ the ~~said~~ composition is in the form of a cream or a sterile solution.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): The composition according to Claim 1, wherein ~~Use according to any one of Claims 1 to 4, characterized in that~~ the ~~said~~ composition ~~comprises~~ contains from 0.1 to 20 mg/ml of the ~~said~~ salt of L-ascorbic acid with ~~a~~ the pharmaceutically acceptable organic base, and further comprises at least one pharmaceutically acceptable inert vehicle.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): The composition according to Claim 5, wherein ~~Use according to Claim 5, characterized in that~~ the ~~said~~ composition ~~comprises~~ contains from 0.2 to 10 mg/ml of the ~~said~~ salt of L-ascorbic acid with ~~a~~ the pharmaceutically acceptable organic base ~~and at least one pharmaceutically acceptable inert vehicle~~.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): The composition according to Claim 5, wherein ~~Use according to Claim 5, characterized in that~~ the ~~said~~ composition ~~comprises~~ contains from 0.5 to 2 mg/ml of the ~~said~~ salt of L-ascorbic acid with ~~a~~ the pharmaceutically acceptable organic base ~~and at least one pharmaceutically acceptable inert vehicle~~.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): The composition according to Claim 1, wherein ~~Use according to any one of Claims 1 to 7, characterized in that~~ the ~~said~~ composition is in the form of a sterile collyrium comprising ~~a~~ the salt of L-ascorbic acid with lysine or with tromethamine.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): The composition according to Claim 8, wherein ~~Use according to Claim 8, characterized in that~~ the ~~said~~ composition ~~also~~ further comprises an anti-inflammatory drug.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): The composition according to Claim 9, wherein ~~Use according to Claim 9, characterized in that~~ the ~~said~~ anti-inflammatory drug is dexamethasone.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): A therapeutic ~~Therapeutic~~ method ~~for improving the level of L-ascorbic acid in a human eye, the said method~~ comprising topically administering ~~the topical administration to the said eye of~~ a composition, comprising an effective amount of

a salt of L-ascorbic acid with a pharmaceutically acceptable organic base, to an eye of a subject in need thereof.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): The method ~~Method~~ according to Claim 11, wherein ~~in which~~ the ~~said~~ organic base is ~~chosen~~ selected from the group ~~comprising~~ consisting of tromethamine, N-methylglucosamine, lysine, arginine and ornithine.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): The method ~~Method~~ according to Claim 11, wherein ~~in which~~ the ~~said~~ organic base is tromethamine or lysine.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): The method ~~Method~~ according to ~~Claims 11 to 13~~ Claim 11, ~~comprising the administration~~ wherein the composition is administered 1 to 24 times a day in the form of a sterile pharmaceutical dosage ~~form comprising~~ containing from 0.1 to 20 mg/ml of the ~~said~~ salt.

Claim 15 (Currently Amended): The method ~~Method~~ according to ~~Claims 11 to 13~~ Claim 11, ~~comprising the administration~~ wherein the composition is administered 3 to 12 times a day in the form of a sterile pharmaceutical dosage ~~form comprising~~ containing from 0.1 to 20 mg/ml of the ~~said~~ salt.

Claim 16 (Currently Amended): The method ~~Method~~ according to ~~Claims 11 to 13~~ Claim 11, ~~comprising the administration~~ wherein the composition is administered 1 to 24 times a day in the form of a sterile pharmaceutical dosage ~~form comprising~~ containing from 0.2 to 10 mg/ml of the ~~said~~ salt.

Claim 17 (Currently Amended): The method ~~Method~~ according to ~~Claims 11 to 13~~ Claim 11, ~~comprising the administration~~ wherein the composition is administered 3 to 12 times a day in the form of a sterile pharmaceutical dosage ~~form comprising~~ containing from 0.2 to 10 mg/ml of the ~~said~~ salt.

Claim 18 (Currently Amended): The method ~~Method~~ according to ~~Claims 11 to 13~~ Claim 11, ~~comprising the administration~~ wherein the composition is administered 1 to 24 times a day in the form of a sterile pharmaceutical dosage ~~form comprising~~ containing from 0.5 to 2 mg/ml of the ~~said~~ salt.

Claim 19 (Currently Amended): The method ~~Method~~ according to ~~Claims 11 to 13~~ Claim 11, ~~comprising the administration~~ wherein the composition is administered 3 to 12 times a day in the form of a sterile pharmaceutical dosage ~~form comprising~~ containing from 0.5 to 2 mg/ml of the ~~said~~ salt.

Claim 20 (Currently Amended): The method ~~Method~~ according to ~~Claims 11 to 19~~ Claim 11, ~~also~~ wherein the composition further comprises ~~comprising the ophthalmic topical administration of~~ an anti-inflammatory drug.

Claim 21 (Currently Amended): The method ~~Method~~ according to ~~Claims 11 to 20~~ Claim 20, ~~also comprising the ophthalmic topical administration of~~ wherein the anti-inflammatory drug is dexamethasone.